

# **Case Studies of *Intelligent Compaction***

Ervin Dukatz, PH.D, P.E.  
Mathy Construction Co.

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# Intelligent Compactors

- Why intelligent compactors (IC)?
- Are they “plug and play”?
- What accessories are needed?
- Where can they be used on a project?
- Data: What, Where, When and How?
- Where have they been used?
- And...?

# Why intelligent compactors (IC)?

## *The Problem:*

Are the pavement layers well compacted:

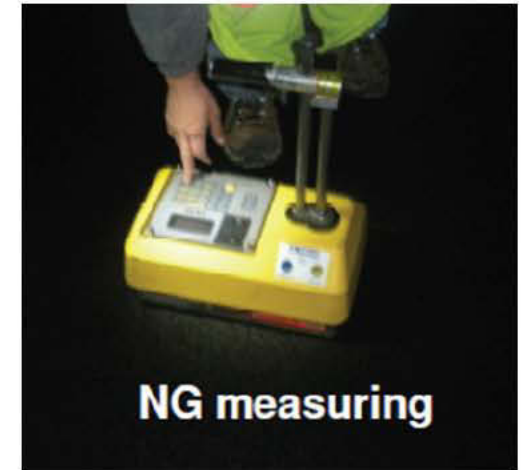
- Subgrade,
- Base, and
- HMA?

How do you measure?

# Current Methods

- Post Construction
- Measured *at*

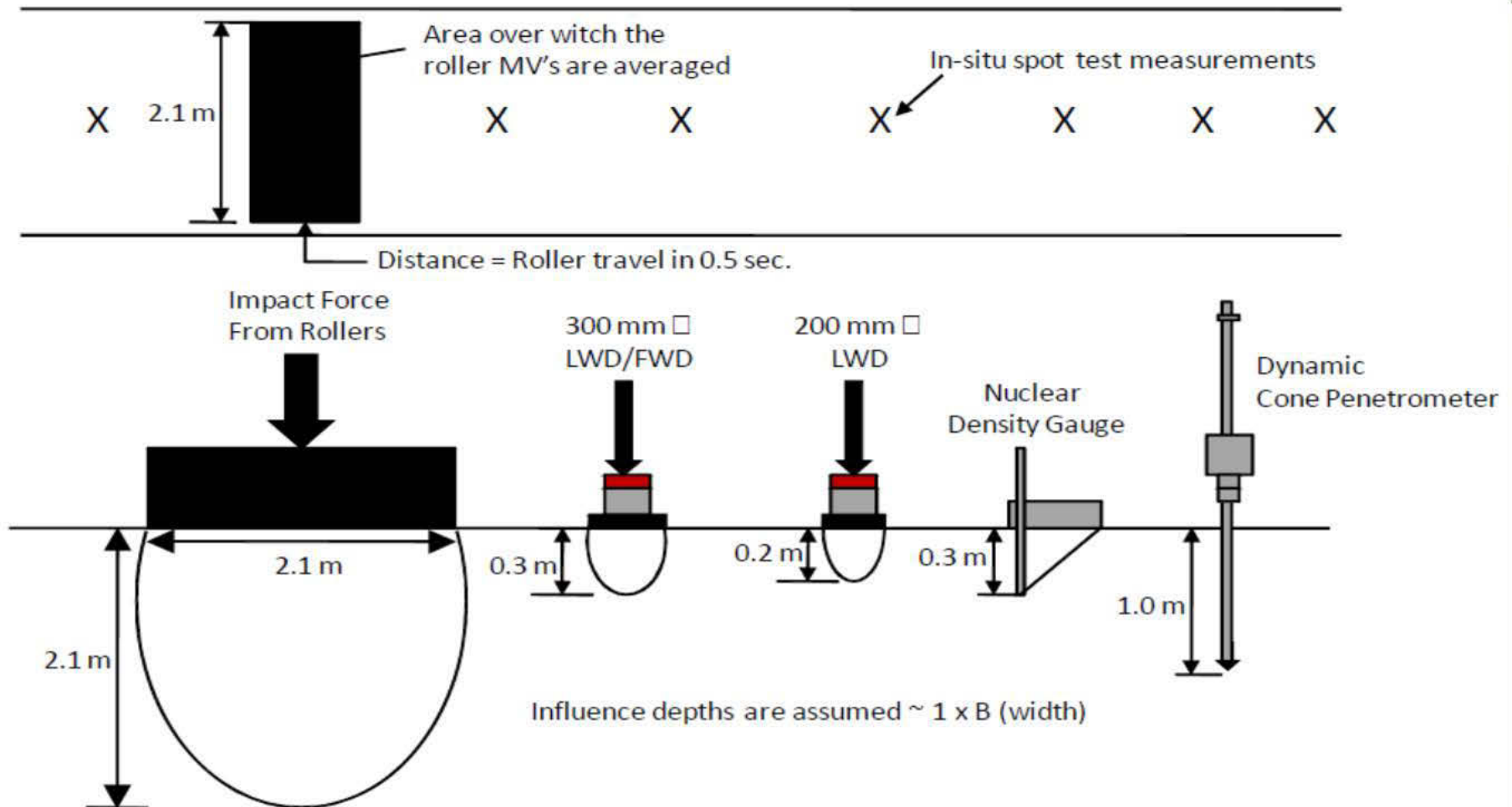
*Random* Locations



# What is Needed?

- Real-time
  - Control
  - Measurements

# Why Intelligent Compactors?

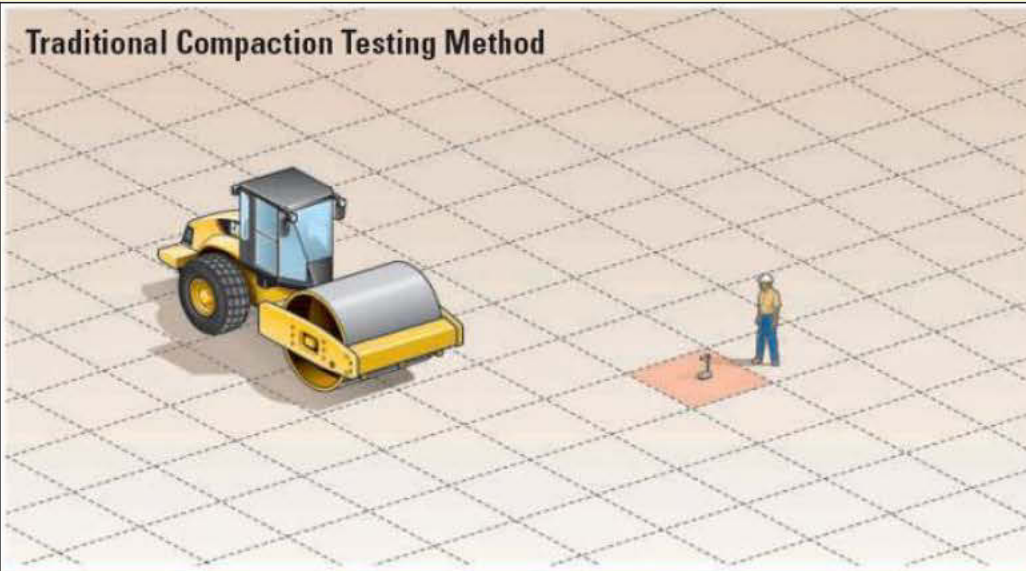


(Courtesy of Dr. David White)



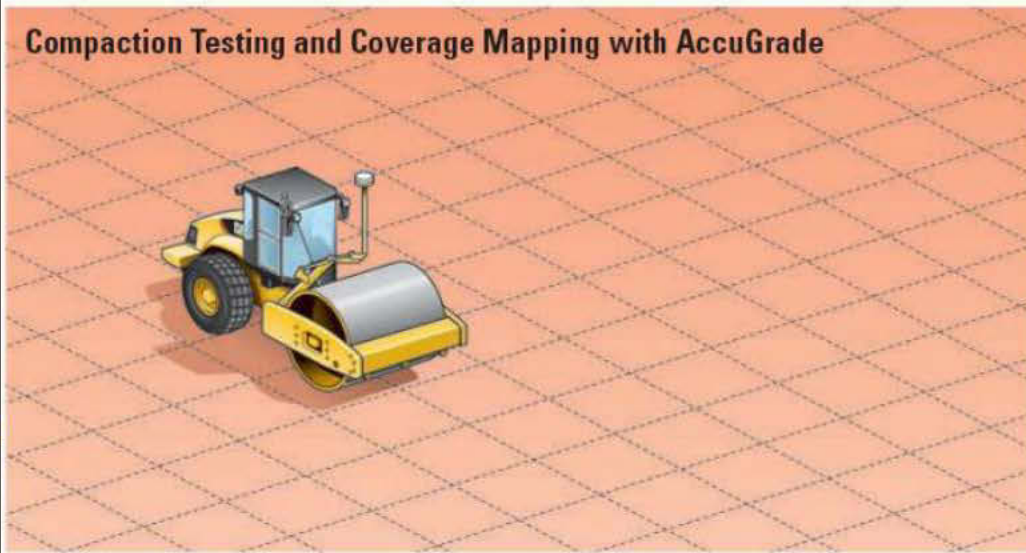
# Sampling Coverage

Traditional Compaction Testing Method



**$1 / 1,000,000$**

Compaction Testing and Coverage Mapping with AccuGrade



**100 %  
Coverage**



Courtesy of Trimble/Caterpillar

# Are they “plug and play”?

Some assembly needed:

- Accessories
- Calibrations
- Training
  - Operators
  - Managers
  - Owner/Agency



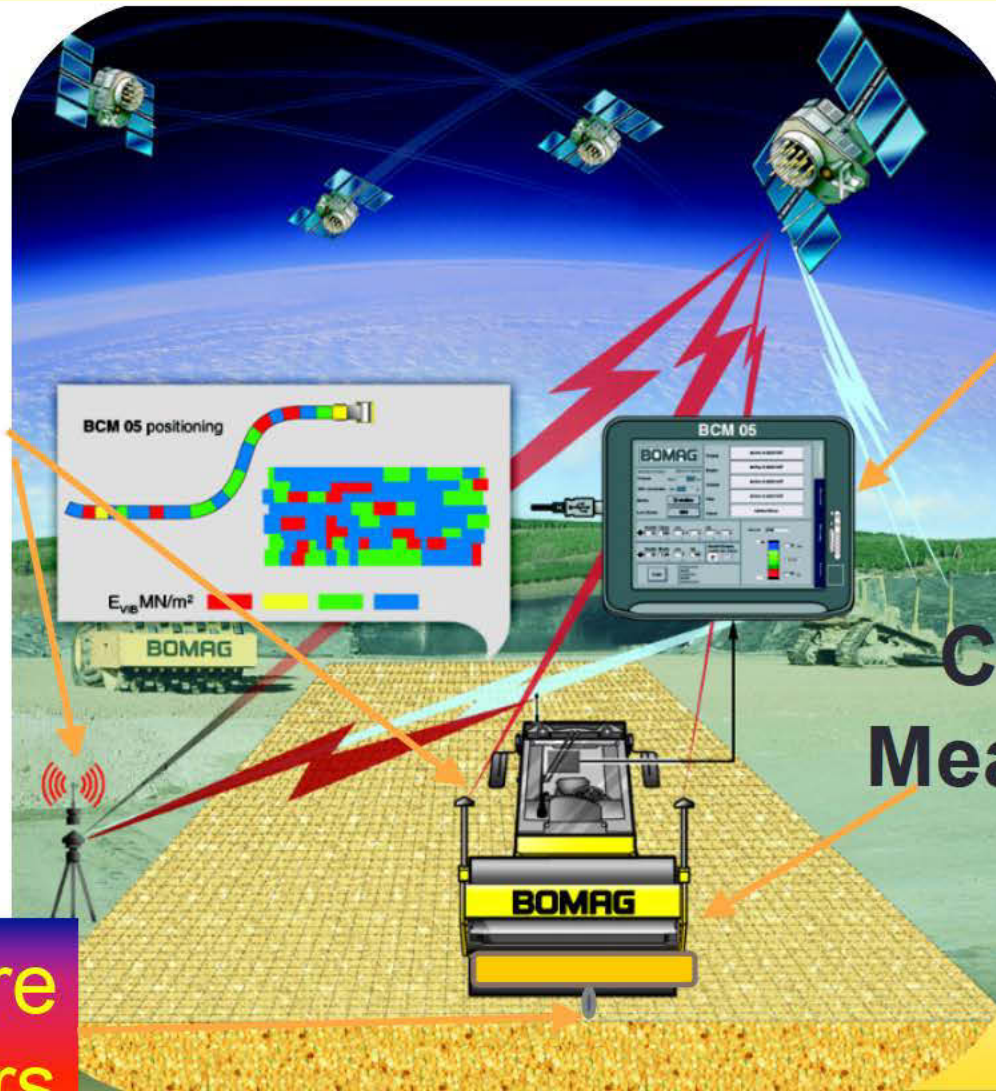
# What accessories are needed?

Global  
Positioning  
System  
GPS

Onboard  
Report  
System

Continuous  
Measurement  
System

Temperature  
Sensors



# Where to use IC rollers?

- Preconstruction site survey
- Mapping the project
- QC during construction
- Acceptance / Proof Rolling





# Data: What, Where, When and How?

Real time display shows the mapped:

- Roller pass locations
- Number of passes
- ***Stiffness value (RM***
- Option:
  - Temperature(s)



# RMV(Roller Measurement Values)



**Ammann**

$k_b$



**Caterpillar**  
CMV, MDP



**HAMM/Wirtgen**

HMV



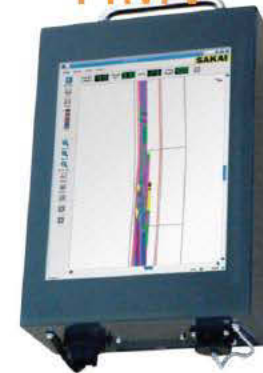
**Bomag**

$E_{VIB}$



**Dynapac**

CMV



**Sakai**

CCV

Courtesy Transtec, Inc.



# Notes on RMV

- RMV only measured with rollers with a vibrating drum.
- RMV only measured with vibrators turned on.
- Currently, RMV is unique to:
  - Manufacturer
  - Roller model
- $RMV = E^*, G^* \text{ or } M_R$
- RMV standard(s) needed.



# IC, Where are you?

- Local positioning
- VRS – virtual reference system
  - Need 100% cellular coverage
  - Problems?
- RTK(real-time kinetic)-GPS
  - Need master/local base station
  - Repeaters and Rover
  - 100% coverage
  - Problems?

# Location of Base Station

- Undisturbed by everyday activities.
- GPS needs coordinate system set
- Line of sight needed between IC(s), base station and repeaters
- Additionally: spare *Batteries*



# (GPS) Rover

- GPS Instrument used to:
  - ü set up base station
  - ü Tie into local or state coordinate system
  - ü Mark test locations
  - ü Check calibrations.
- GPS Receiver
- Controller





# How is the Data collected?

A short history.

- 2004 MnDOT first uses IC at MnRoad
- 2006 Mathy first trial with IC
- 2010 Mathy TPF 954 with WisDOT on I39
- 2010 Mathy SFDR Mn-16
- 2012 Mathy with MnDOT
  - Th 56 and 57
  - CSAH 16



# BOMAG 190AD IC Roller-

## E<sub>VIB</sub>



- Found utilities and soft spots random testing by density gauge missed.
- Monitor display



# BOMAG 190AD IC Roller

2007 I94 Wisconsin



- PCC slabs rocking
- $E_{VIB}$  prevented
- Operator

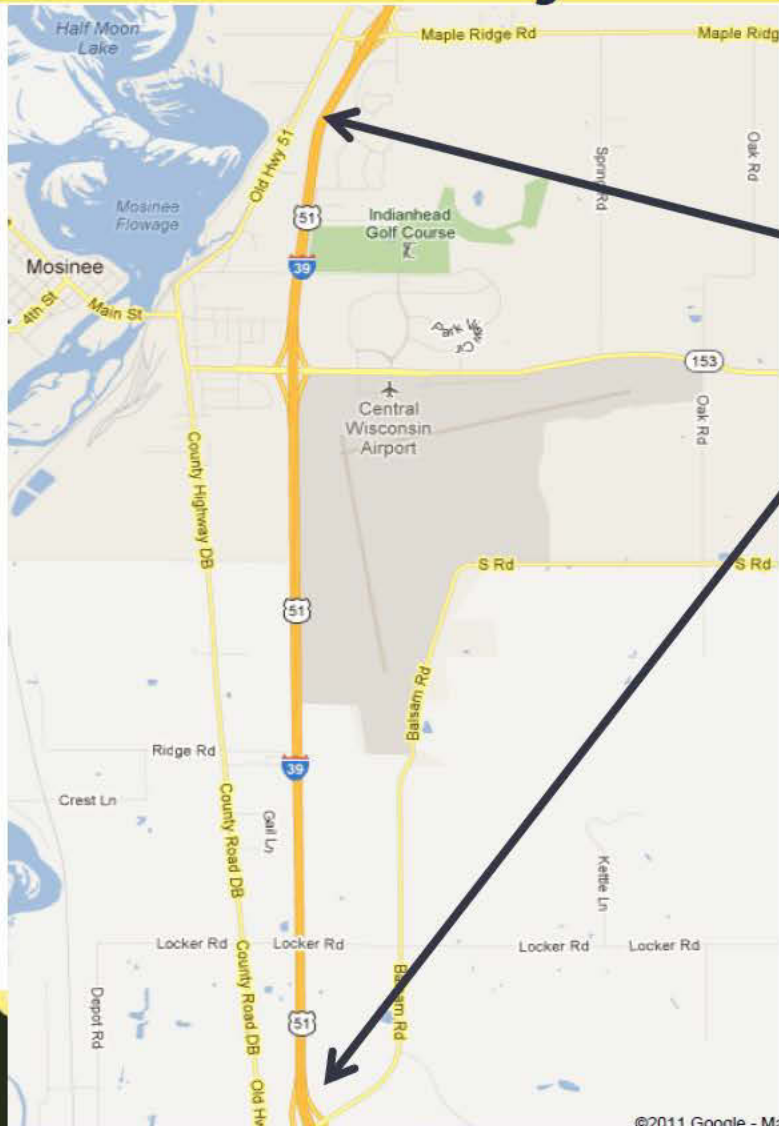
# Sakai SW 880 IC Roller- CCV

2008 I35 Iowa



- used in TPF954
- $CCV \neq E_{VIB}$

# 2010 Project Overview- I39



- WisDOT Proj. No. 1166-00-76
- Net Centerline Length: 5.7 mi
  - Start: Maple Ridge Road
  - Finish: Sth 34 (Balsam Rd)

## Project description:

- Mill and remove existing HMA
- Rubbilize or crack-and-seat PCC
- Overlay with HMA
- IC used for mapping and compaction
- Manual Data Collection



# Unique Features

- First TPF 954 IC demo to pave HMA on rubbilized and crack-and seat PCC base.
- First IC Demo to use IC rollers from “the ground up:
  - Mapping the rubbilized PCC base
  - Mapping the crack-and-seat PCC base
  - Compaction of HMA base, intermediate and surface layers.



# Equipment



SW 990 Tandem IC Roller

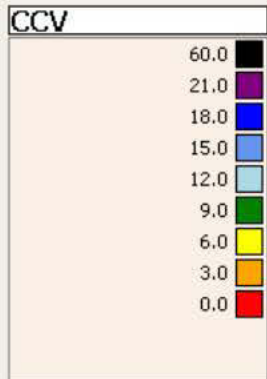
Topcon Positioning Systems  
Base station

SW 880 Tandem IC Roller

Trimble Navigation Limited  
base station







Main Lanes

21'

14'

14'

23'

Shoulders

IH-39 SB Section 1-1

SW880

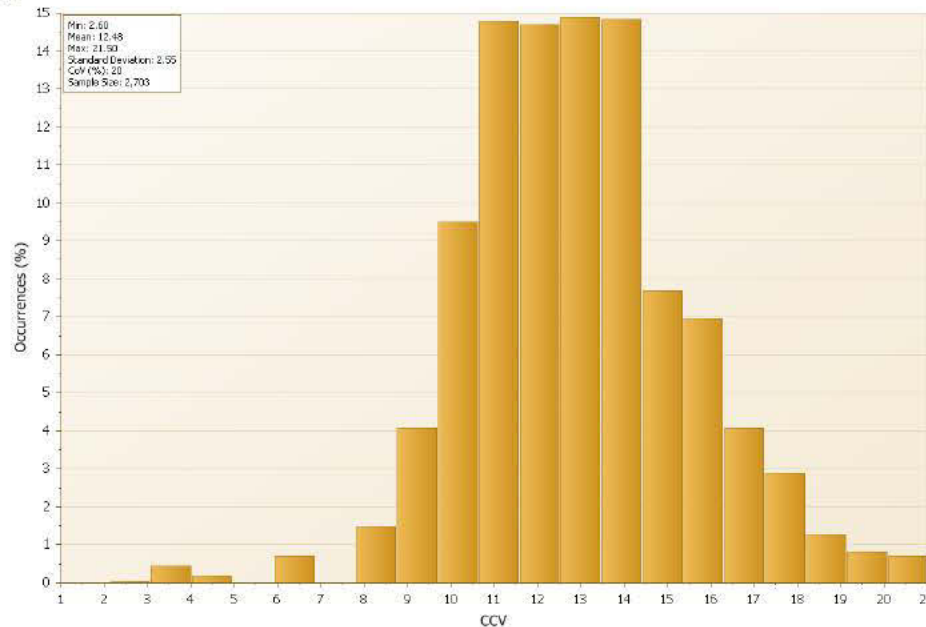
Mapping Rubblized PCC

278'

Weak Spots

# Mapping Main Lanes Section 1-1

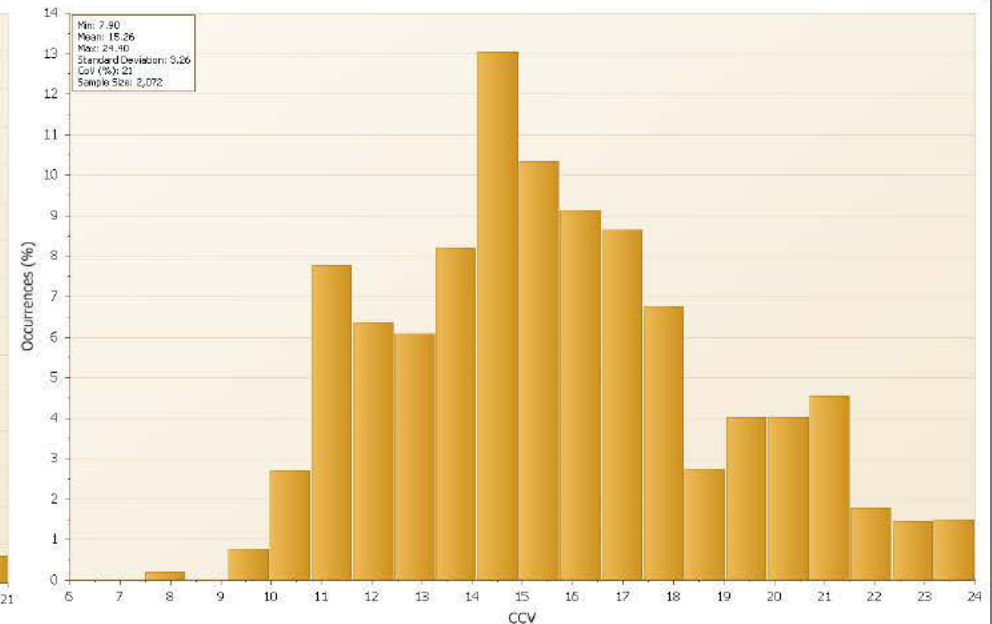
## Rubblized PCC



Mean CCV = 12.5



## HMA Surface Course



Mean: CCV = 15.3

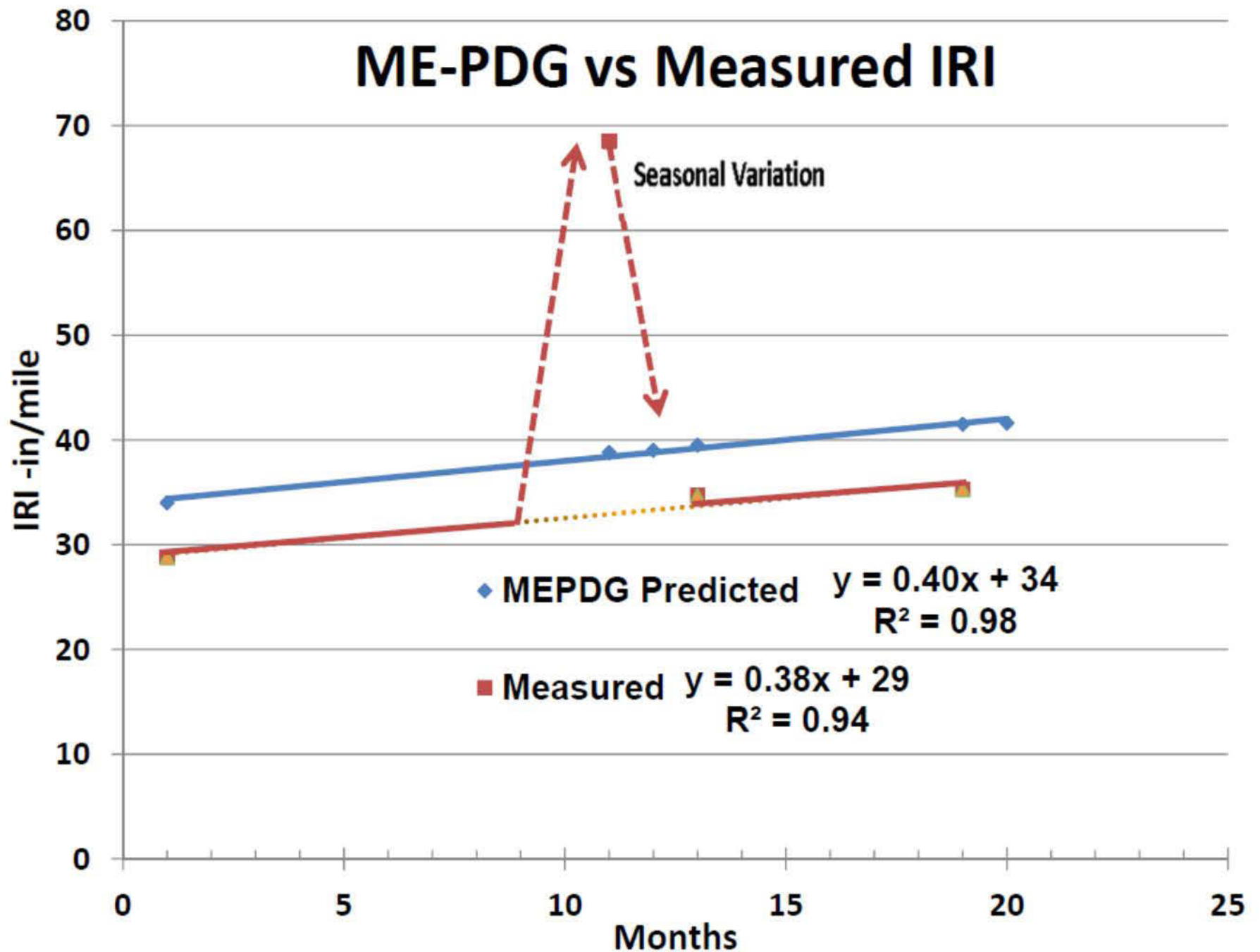
%Gmm = 93.5

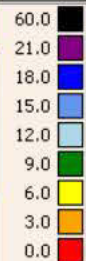
IRI = 29.8in/mile

**Compaction Control  
Value Increases from  
ground up**

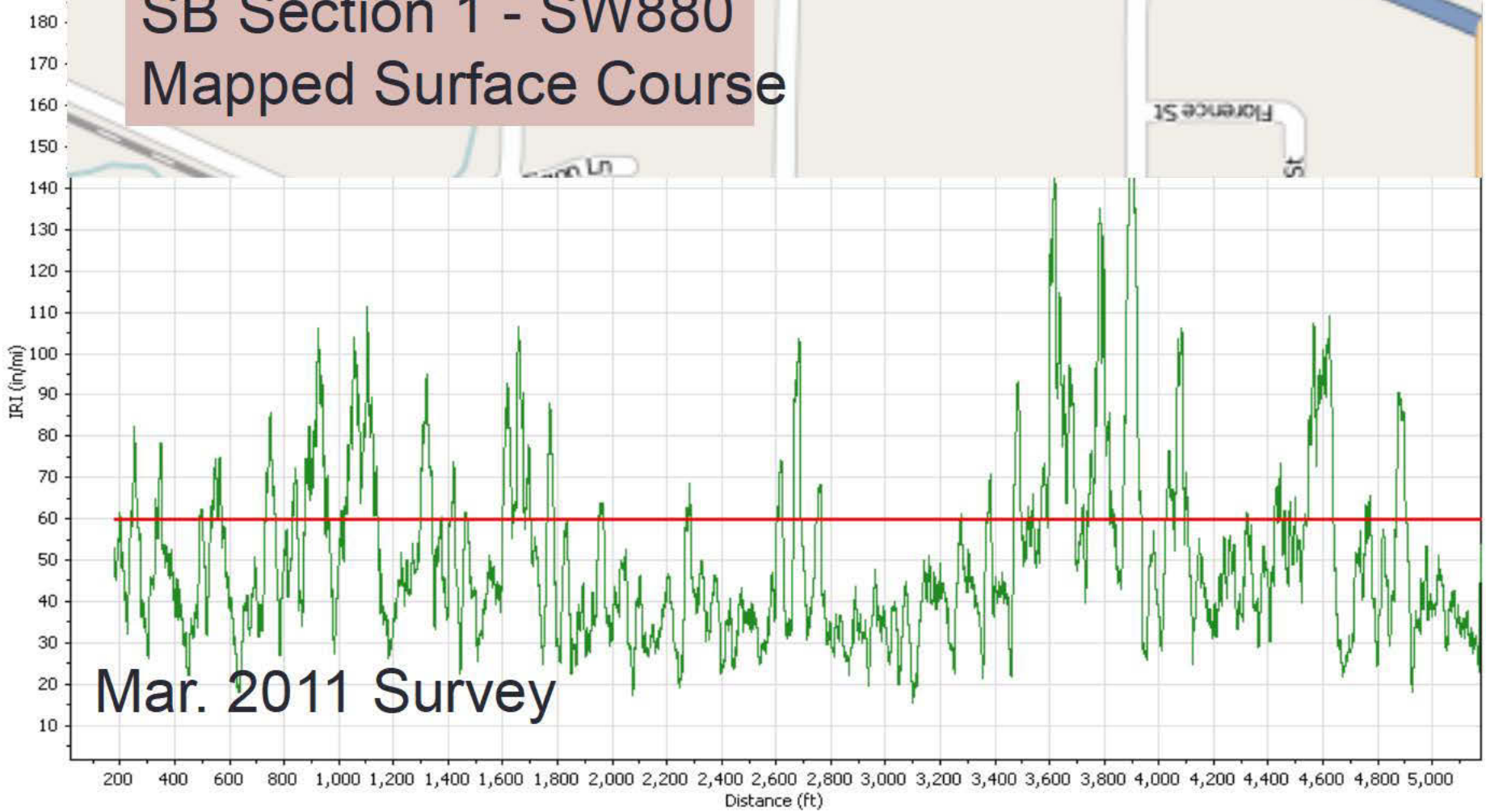


## ME-PDG vs Measured IRI





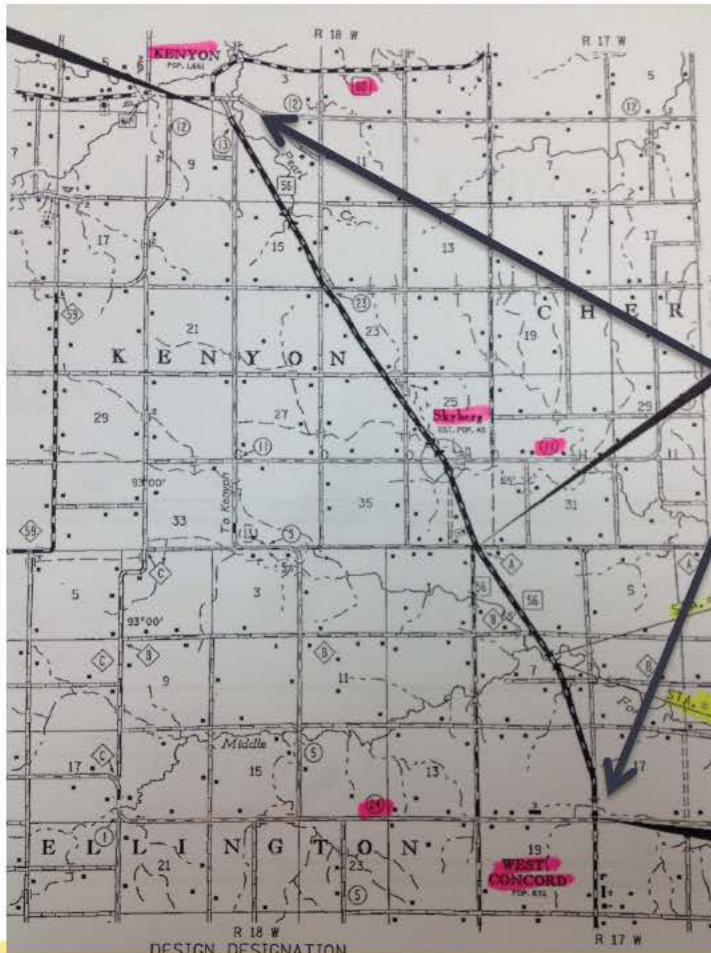
# SB Section 1 - SW880 Mapped Surface Course



I-39-SB-LN1-2011-03\_Left Track



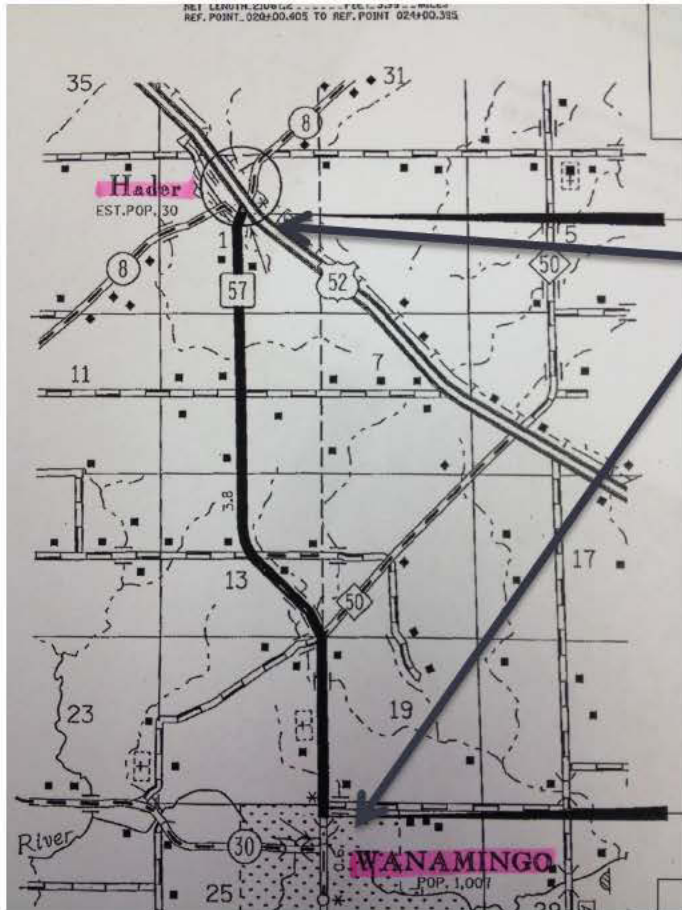
# 2012 Project Overview-TH 56



- MnDOT Proj. No. 2507-21 & 2006-27
- Net Centerline Length: 9.14 Miles
- Start: Kenyon, MN
- Finish: West Concord, MN
- Mill surface, SFDR, HMA
- IC equipment used through all phases.

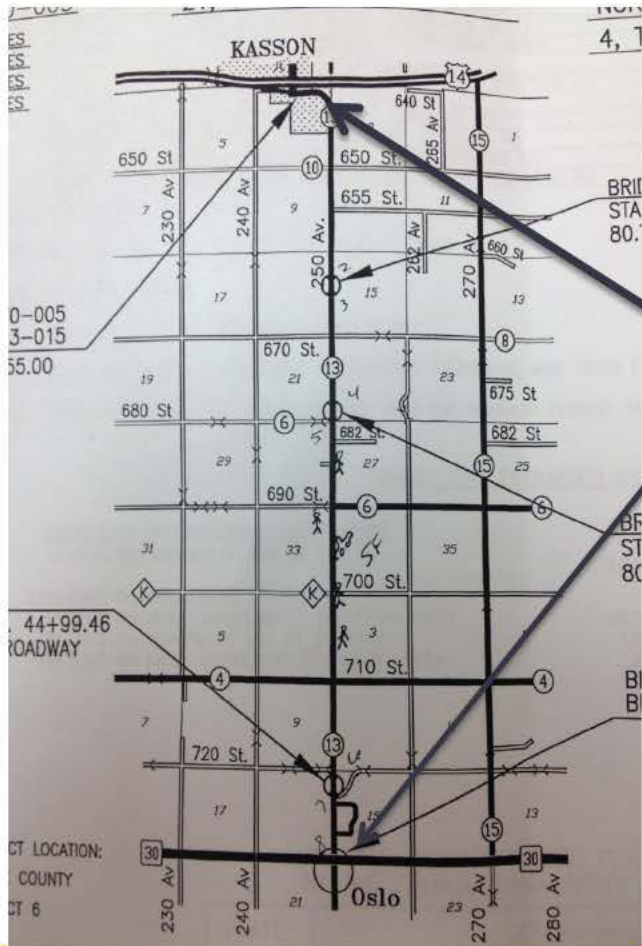


# 2012 Project Overview-TH 57



- MnDOT Proj. No. 2509-22
- Net Centerline Length: 3.99 Miles
- Start: Hader, MN
- Finish: Wanamingo, MN
- Bituminous Mill & Overlay
- IC equipment used through paving.

# 2012 Project Overview-CSAH 13



- Proj. No. 020-613-015 & 020-070-005
- Net Centerline Length: 9.324 Miles
- Start: Kassel, MN
- Finish: TH 30
- FDR, HMA Surfacing, Aggregate Shouldering
- IC equipment used through all phases.

# Roller Equipment

- Used or New roller?
  - Lead time
- What IC equipment is on the roller?
  - GPS Receiver
  - Sensors (stiffness vibratory rollers only)
  - Radio
  - Monitor



# Trimble IC Retrofit System

**Used**  
(CCS900 Components)

**MS972 GPS Receiver with  
WAAS (SBAS)**

**CB460 Control Box**

**SNM940 Connected Site Link**

**IS310 Temperature Sensor**

**IS310 Temperature Sensor**

**CM 310 Compaction  
Sens.**

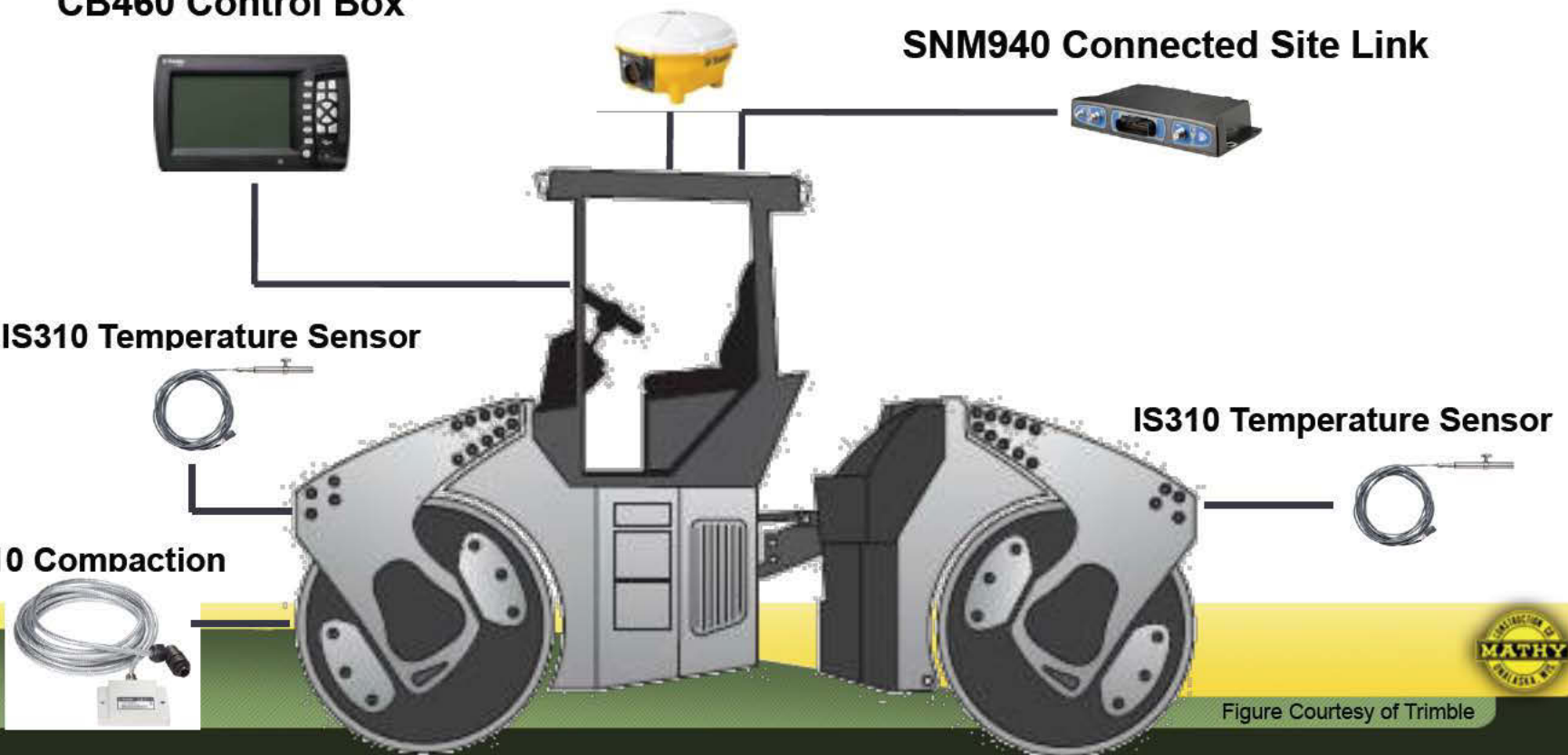


Figure Courtesy of Trimble



# Instrumented Entire Rolling Train



**Stabilized / Un-stabilized Full Depth Reclamation (FDR)**



**HMA Paving Train**



Courtesy of Rebecca Embacher, MnDOT



# Testing Matrix



## Pre-Grind

- IC
- Nuke
- DCP
- LWD
- FWD

## Stabilization

- IC
- Nuke
- LWD
- FWD

## Before Paving

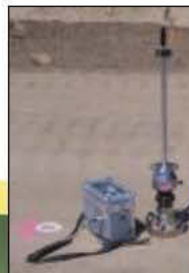
- FWD
- Digital Test Rolling

## HMA Base Course

- IC
- Nuke
- LWD
- FWD
- PAVE-IR

## HMA Wearing Course

- IC
- Nuke
- LWD
- FWD
- PAVE-IR
- GPR



Courtesy of Rebecca Embacher, MnDOT



# Daily Setup

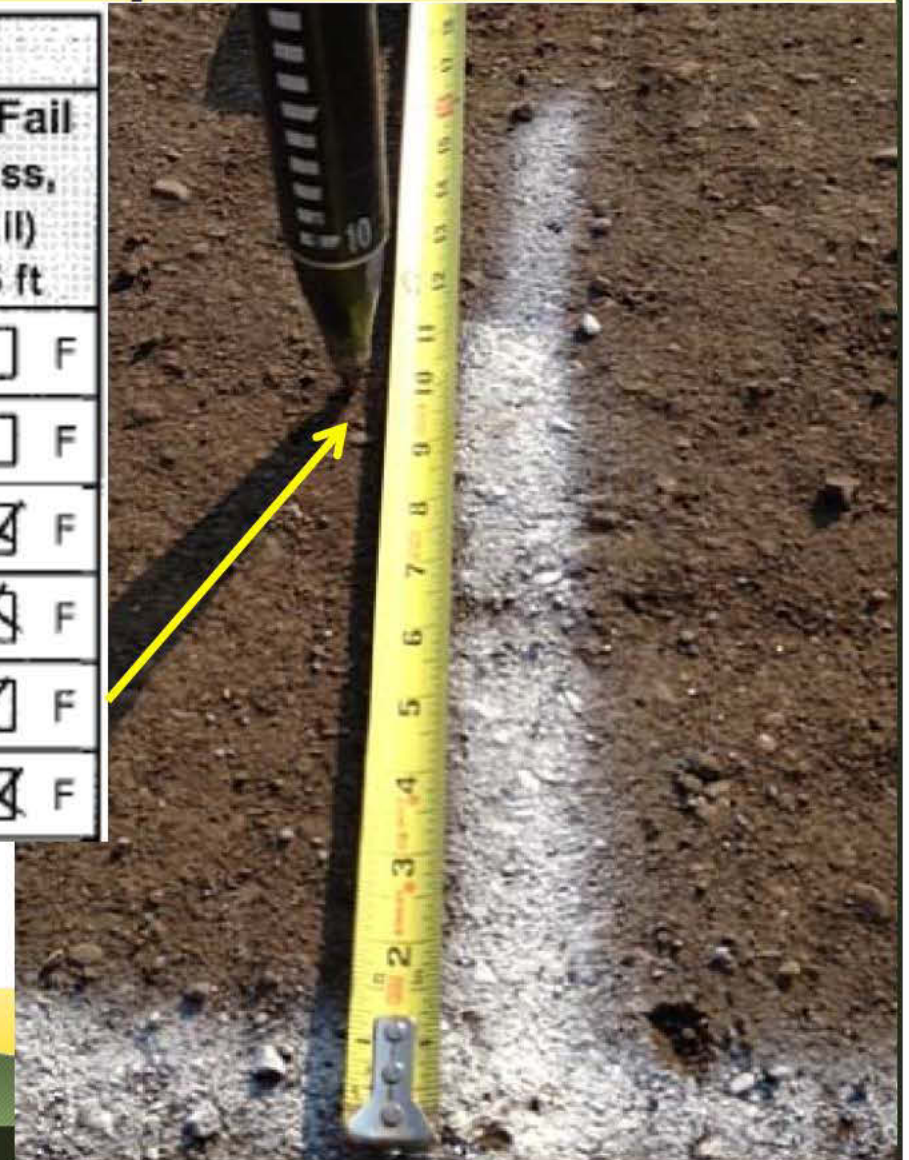


- IC manager  
(Calibrate Rollers)
  - $\pm 6$ in. Tolerance  
Between roller and  
Rover
  - Time

# Calibration – oops!

Accuracy		
$\Delta$ Northing	$\Delta$ Easting	Pass / Fail (P = Pass, F = Fail) $P \leq 0.5$ ft
abs [ (A) - (C) ]	abs [ (B) - (D) ]	
0.10	0.21	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> F
0.03	0.21	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> F
0.70	0.57	<input type="checkbox"/> P <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> F
0.53	0.60	<input type="checkbox"/> P <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> F
0.86	0.75	<input type="checkbox"/> P <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> F
0.26	1.20	<input type="checkbox"/> P <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> F

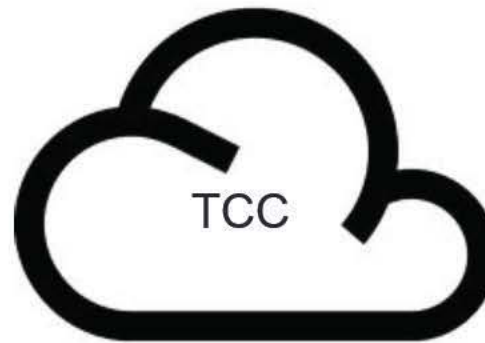
- Plan for the unexpected.





# Communication

- Manual Data Collection – 40% loss
- Automatic Data Collection <1%

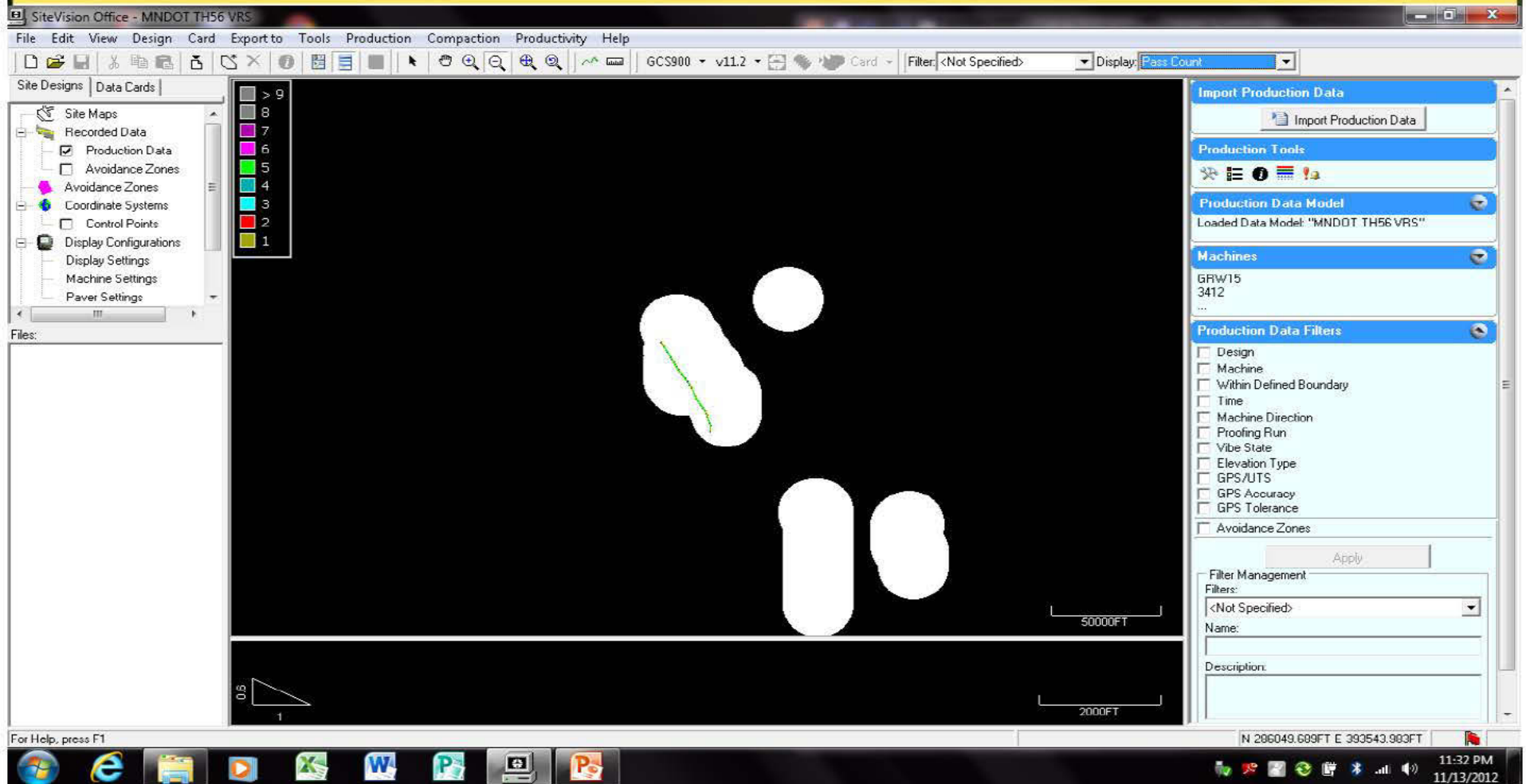




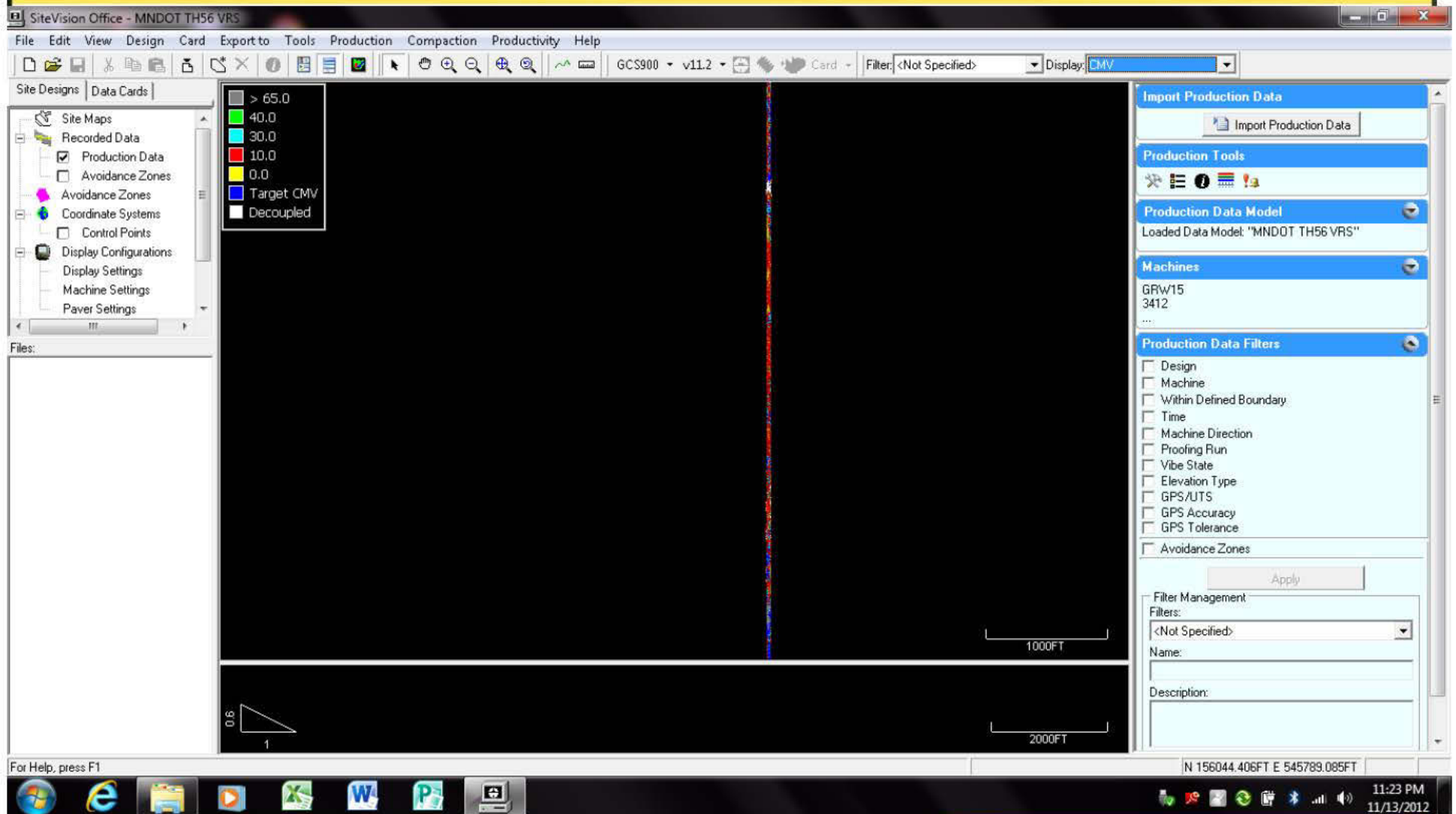
# Troubleshooting

- Radio issues
  - Delayed response
- Sensor issues
  - Replacement of parts
- Breakdowns
- Communication issues
  - Monitor working
  - Data not Transmitted
  - Have backup Plan.

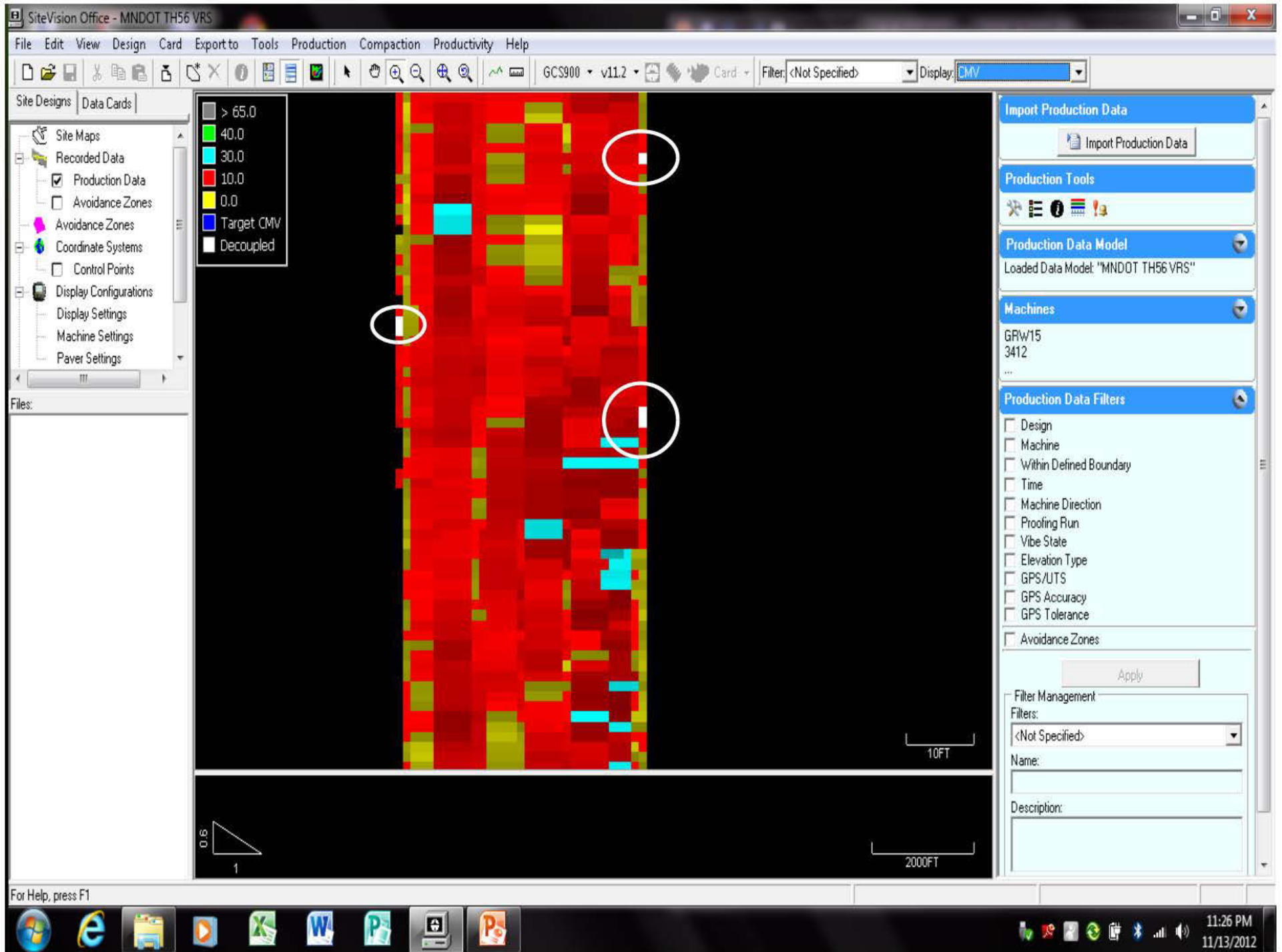
# View from the office



# View from the office







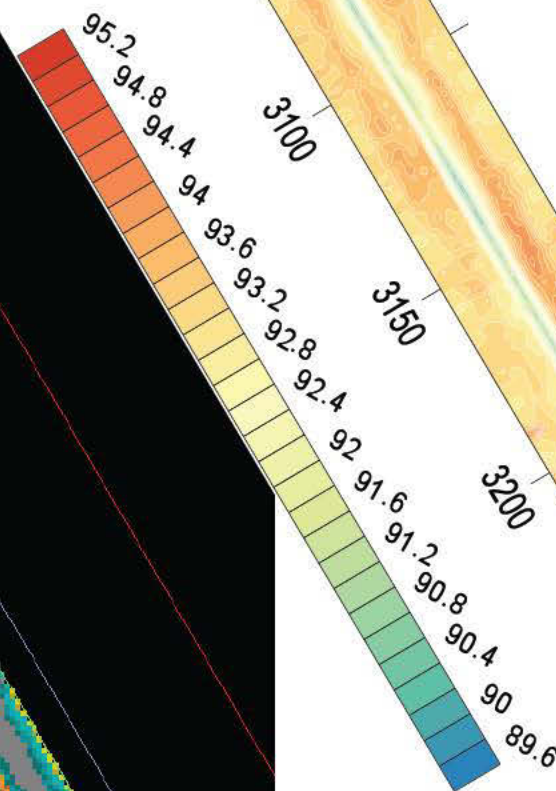
# GPR Surface Density

HMA Wearing Course  
(2<sup>nd</sup> Lift)

1<sup>2</sup><sub>3</sub> Pass Count



IC Pass Count



Station 30+00 to 33+00  
Courtesy of Rebecca Embacher, MnDOT

# Data Transfer – Th 56

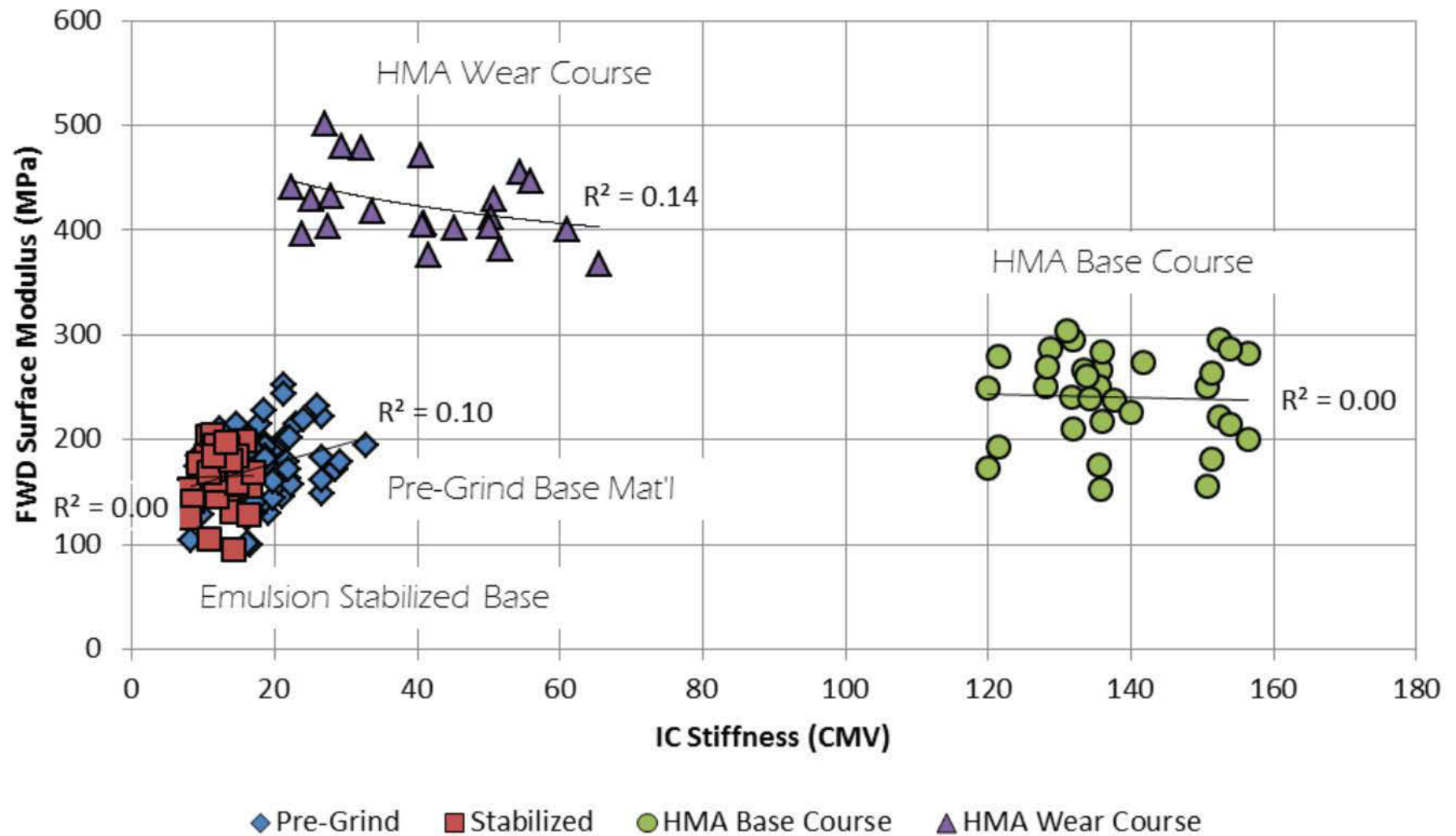
- Directly from roller to web-base storage (cloud technology).
- At least one time per day.

Massive Volume Data!



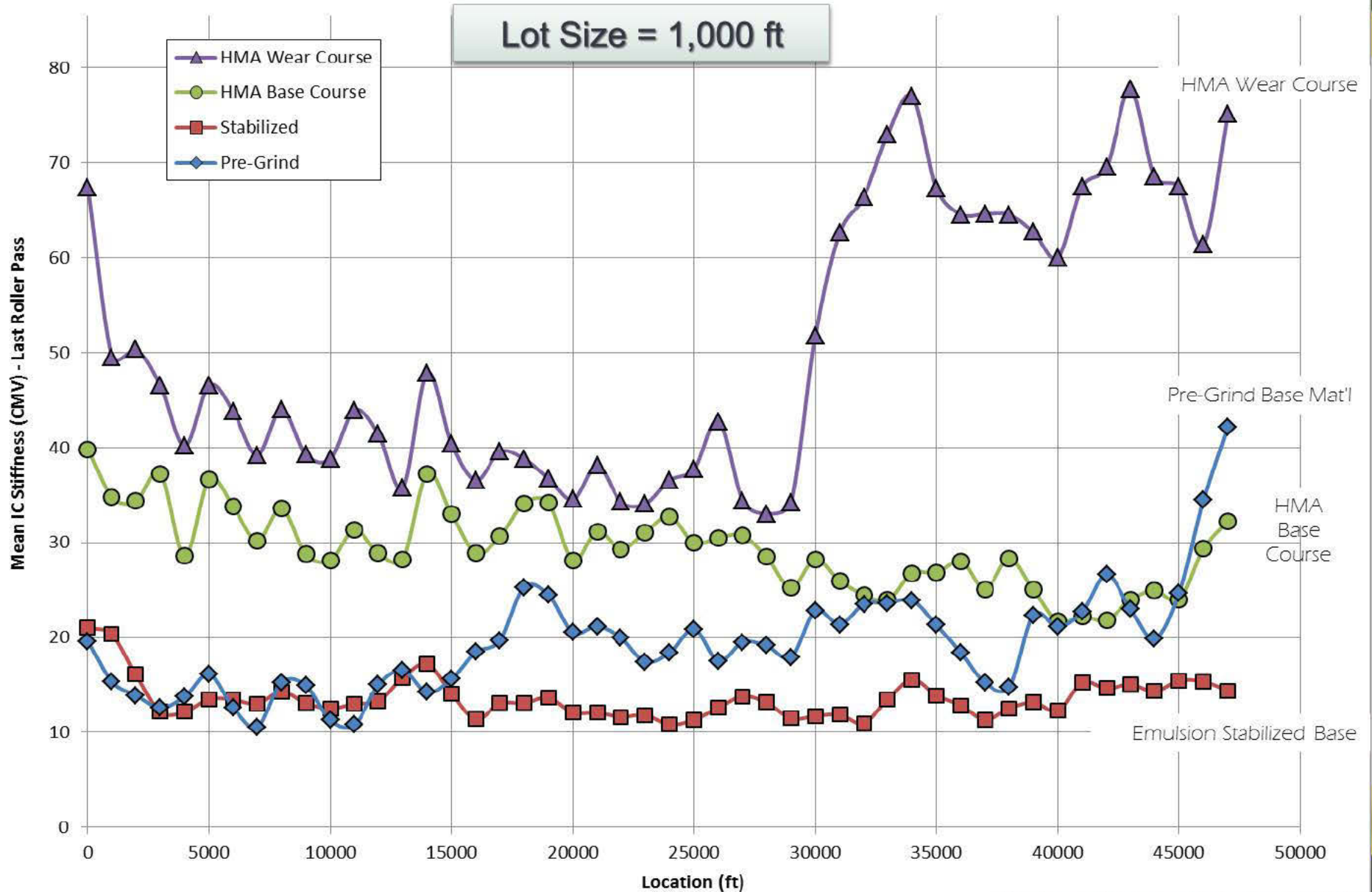


# Correlation between FWD & IC



Courtesy of Rebecca Embacher, MnDOT

# Effects of Material on Stiffness



Courtesy of Rebecca Embacher, MnDOT

# Target Values

Unable to implement a target stiffness or pass count as part of QA.

COMPLEX

(It has never been successfully achieved in MN)

QC only at this time.

Courtesy of Rebecca Embacher, MnDOT





# Smoothness Results

- **IRI Ride results – inches/mile**
  - **Th56 Dodge      30.9**
  - **Th56 Goodhue   31.8**
  - **Th57 Goodhue   37.0**
  - **CAH 13            30.0**

# Density Results

- **Density Averages - %G<sub>mm</sub>**
  - Th56            94.6
  - Th57            94.3
  - CSAH 13    95.3

# Summary

## Quality Management

- Complete rolling documentation
- Stiffness
  - Varies with machine/manufacture
  - Not correlated to current density specifications
  - No direct correlation to pavement performance models.
  - Huge data files



# Summary

Intelligent Compaction can be used for:

- Pre-paving site surveys.
- Project mapping and
- Quality Control
- Real time measure of consistency.



# Conclusion

- Standard rolling and paving practices need to be followed
  - Ø IC doesn't drive the equipment for you!
- IC is a developing technology for performance based acceptance.

# Future Work

- Develop standards for stiffness measurements
- Correlate stiffness to pavement performance
- Integrate with 3D project control



# Acknowledgements

- FHWA – Lee Gallivan
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- MnDOT – Rebecca Embacher
- Mathy Construction and
  - American Asphalt Division
  - Rochester Sand and Gravel Division

